

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Washington, DC
August 7, 2003

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project Nos. 2100-California
Oroville Project
Department of Water Resources

Wayne S. White
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95821-6340

Rodney R. McInnis, Acting regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries
Southwest Region
501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200
Long Beach, CA 90802-4213

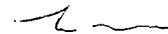
Dear Sirs:

In a letter filed July 23, 2003, California Department of Water Resources (DWR) asked the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) to designate them as the non-Federal representative for the purpose of starting consultation with the National Marine Fishery Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act for the above project. DWR is using a collaborative process to prepare a draft biological assessment and a draft Environmental Assessment on the proposed relicensing of the Oroville Project. The current license for this project expires in 2007. By this letter, the Commission designates DWR as the Commission's non-Federal representative to consult informally with your agency.

The role of the non-federal representative includes doing studies, developing and supplying information, attending meetings, ensuring that pertinent endangered species information is kept in a project file, developing a draft biological assessment, participating in informal consultation with NMFS and FWS, and keeping the Commission apprised of its actions. We recommend that DWR set up a meeting with your office to discuss how the informal consultation will be done.

The FERC contact will be Jim Fargo. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Fargo at (202) 502-6095; james.fargo@ferc.gov.

Sincerely,



Lon R. Crow
Hydro West Group 2

Enclosure: DWR's Request to Initiate Consultation

cc: Dockets
Public Files
Mr. Raphael A. Torres, Department of Water Resources
Mr. Miles Croom, National Marine Fishery Service
Mr. Richard DeHaven, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service